

DOCKSIDE SURVEY

Dockside interviews should be conducted anywhere at the assigned site where there are persons who appear to have just completed offshore large pelagic fishing trips. Do not interview people at adjacent sites!

Screening Introduction

To be eligible for the Dockside Survey, a potential respondent must:

-be the captain or owner of a boat that has just completed an offshore fishing trip targeting large pelagics.

Once the canvassing introduction has been administered, the screening introduction should be administered to determine if the respondent meets these eligibility requirements.

Screener

Item 1 Are you the captain or owner?

- if the respondent says 'yes', go to Screener Item 2
- if the respondent is not the captain or owner, terminate the interview, and tally the respondent on your Assignment Summary Form as 'NOT CAPTAIN/OWNER' in the ineligibles section

Screener

Item 2 Did your boat just return from a fishing trip for large game fish, such as tunas, billfish, sharks, mahi, amberjack, or wahoo?

- if the respondent says 'yes', go to the Dockside Survey
- if the respondent says 'yes, I was fishing for King Mackerel', then you should ask if he/she was also fishing totally other large pelagics; (for the purposes of the screening introduction, large pelagics include all of the fishes listed on the back of the Dockside questionnaire with the exception of King Mackerel); if the respondent was fishing only for King Mackerel, terminate and tally the respondent on your Assignment Summary Form as 'NOT GAME FISHING' in the ineligibles section
- if the respondent says 'no', terminate the interview and tally the respondent on your Assignment Summary Form as 'NOT GAME FISHING' in the ineligibles section
- if the respondent says that they weren't targeting large game fish, but they happened to catch a large gamefish, terminate the interview and tally the respondent on your Assignment Summary Form as 'NOT GAME FISHING' in the ineligibles section

Privacy Act Statement

As soon as the respondent's eligibility is established, the interviewer should read the annotated Privacy Act Statement on the Dockside Questionnaire. While this short statement will be read to all, each interviewer will be given and should carry several copies of a longer Privacy Act Statement giving more complete information.

All surveys conducted by the federal government are regulated by the Privacy Act of 1974. This act stipulates that each person interviewed must be informed of the following -. the auspices under which the survey is being conducted; whether participation is voluntary or mandatory; what will happen if they choose not to participate; and how the information will be used. The Privacy Act also stipulates that this information must be available to each survey respondent in written form. While this information does appear on the longer Privacy Act Statement, most respondents will be satisfied with the reading of the abbreviated statement.

Intercept Interview

Items 1 through 9 are not questions to be asked of the angler. They are primarily identifying information.

Item 1 INTERVIEWER CODE Each interviewer is given a unique four-digit identification number. This number, found at the bottom of the Memorandum of Agreement, should be used on all submitted forms.

Item 2 DATE OF INTERVIEW The interviewer should record the Year/Month/Day of the intercept. Two digits for both the month and the day should be used.

Item 3 DOCUMENT NUMBER Throughout an assignment, the interviewer should consecutively number forms completed for the assignment. The first form used should be numbered '01 the second '02', etc. All forms sent in should be numbered, regardless of interview status.

Item 4 CONTROL NUMBER Each assignment is given a four-digit identifying number. The first digit of the control number indicates if it is a weekend or weekday assignment. If the first digit is a '1', it is scheduled for a Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or holiday (e.g., Memorial Day). If the first digit is a '2', it is scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. The second digit indicates the mode of the assignment. A '1' indicates a Dockside assignment, while a '2' indicates a Mark/Recapture assignment.

Item 5 STATE CODE Enter the two-digit numeric code for the state of intercept.

Item 6 SITE NUMBER Enter the seven-digit number assigned to the site of intercept. The site number should be listed on the interviewer assignment listing, as well as in the site register.

Item 7 SITE TYPE Enter the type of site at which the interview took place. If you interviewed at a marina, code '1'. If you interviewed on a private dock, code '2'. If you interviewed at a public ramp, code '3'. If you interviewed at some other type of site, code '4' and specify the type of site at which you interviewed.

Item 8 TIME OF INTERVIEW Using military time, record the time that the interview was completed. Military time runs on a 24-hour clock starting at 0001 hours (one minute past midnight) and ending at 2400 hours (midnight). Since all LPS interviewing is to be conducted between 4:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., the responses to Item 8 should only range from '1600' to '2000'.

Item 9 STATUS Item 9 should be determined at the end of the interview.

Status Definitions

Completed Interview If the angler answers all questions, then the interview is considered 'complete' and should be coded '1'.

Initial Refusal If a seemingly eligible angler refuses to be interviewed at all, it is considered an 'initial refusal' and should be coded '3'.

Language Barrier If a seemingly eligible angler can not respond to the interview and no other person with the angler is willing or able to respond for him/her, code the interview status W.

Mid-interview Refusal If an angler begins the interview but then refuses to complete it at least through the questions regarding number of fish caught, status should be coded '5'.

Item 10 BOAT NAME If the name of the boat is evident (e.g., if it is written on the boat itself or if it's in the ID listing), then you need only verify the information with the respondent, and fill in the name on the coding form. If the boat name is not apparent, ask the respondent 'What is the name of your boat?' and fill in the information. If the boat has **no name**, leave the boxes at Question 10 blank! Be sure to check off the 'no name' box to the side of Question 10. If the boat is actually named 'NO NAME', fill it in the coding boxes.

The next set of questions (Items 11 a through 13b) are asked in order to further identify the boat. The best means of identification is the bluefin permit number. If you are able to obtain that number, you can skip the questions about Coast Guard documentation and state registration numbers, and go directly to Item 14. If you can not get the bluefin permit number, you should ask for the Coast Guard documentation number. If you obtain this information, then you need not ask about state registration number. If you are unable to obtain either the bluefin permit number or the Coast Guard documentation number, then try to obtain the state registration information. It's very important that you get at least one of these identification numbers.

Item 11 a VESSEL PERMITTED If the intercepted vessel's bluefin tuna permit number is contained on the ID listing, you need only verify the information with the respondent. If this is not the case, ask the respondent 'Does your boat have a bluefin tuna permit number?' If the respondent answers 'yes', code '1' and go to Item 11 b. If the respondent answers 'no', 'don't know' or refuses, enter the appropriate code and go to Item 12a.

Item 11 b BLUEFIN PERMIT NUMBER Enter the vessel's bluefin permit number. If you are able to obtain the bluefin tuna permit number, you should skip to Item 14. If the respondent doesn't know his/her number, or will not give you the number, leave Item 11 b blank and go to Item 12a.

Item 12a VESSEL DOCUMENTED If you were unable to get a bluefin tuna permit number, you should ask Item 12a. If the intercepted vessel's Coast Guard documentation number is contained on your ID listing, you need only verify the information with the respondent. If this is not the case, ask the respondent 'Is your vessel documented with the Coast Guard?'. If the respondent says 'yes', code '1' and go to Item 12b. If the respondent answers 'no', 'don't know', or refuses to answer, enter the appropriate code and go to Item 13a.

Item 12b VESSEL DOCUMENTATION Enter the intercepted vessel's Coast Guard documentation number. If the Coast Guard number is not already contained on the ID listing, chances are the respondent will have to do a little searching to locate it (it probably won't be on the side of the boat). Encourage the respondent to find the number, and tell him/her that once we get the number into our database, we shouldn't have to ask them to search for it again. If the vessel is not documented, or if you are unable to obtain the documentation number, leave Item 12b blank.

Item 13a VESSEL REGISTERED If you were unable to get a bluefin tuna permit number or a Coast Guard documentation number, you will need to ask Item 13a. If the intercepted vessel's state registration is apparent (on the side of the boat), or if you have the registration number listed on your ID listing, you need only verify the information with the respondent. If this is not the case, ask the respondent 'Does your boat have a state registration number?'. If the respondent answers 'yes', code '1' and go to Item 13b. If the respondent answers 'no', 'don't know', or refuses to answer, enter the appropriate code and go to Item 14.

Item 13b VESSEL REGISTRATION Enter the intercepted vessel's state registration number. If the number is written on the side of the boat, or if the state registration number is contained on your listing of identifying information, you need only verify the information with the respondent, and fill in the information on the coding form (including the state abbreviation). If you can not determine the state registration number, ask the respondent 'What is your boat's state registration number?' and fill in the information (including the state abbreviation). If the vessel

is not registered, or if you are unable to obtain the registration number, leave Item 13b blank.

Item 14 BOAT TYPE If the intercepted vessel's boat type is contained on your ID listing, you need only verify the information with the respondent. If this is not the case, ask the respondent 'Is your boat strictly a private boat, is it sometimes used as a charter boat, or is it sometimes used as a party (head) boat? If the boat is sometimes used as both a headboat and a charter boat, the boat type should be coded 'T'.

Item 15 RETURN TIME The purpose of this question is to determine when the respondent returned from his/her trip. If you actually see the respondent return to the site, you need only verify the return time with him/her. Otherwise you should ask 'At about what time did your boat return to this site?'. Use military time to record the time that the boat returned to the site.

Item 16 TARGET SPECIES Enter the numeric code for the species or species group that the respondent was primarily targeting on the intercepted trip. It is important that you probe to find the primary target species, since there is room for only one response on the coding form. If the angler states that he/she was targeting bluefin, be sure to determine which size class they were targeting! It is much more useful to have the actual target size classification for bluefin, but if the angler was targeting bluefin and refuses to specify the bluefin size class that he/she was targeting, code 7. If you code '8' (other large pelagic), be sure that you specify the targeted species on your coding form. If the angler claims that he/she was fishing for anything, or if the angler refuses to tell you what species he/she was targeting, code '9'.

Item 17a TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION Enter the appropriate code to indicate if the intercepted vessel was participating in a tournament on the intercepted trip.

Item 17b TOURNAMENT NAME If the respondent answered 'yes' at Question 17a, ask for the name of the tournament at Question 17b, and fill in the name on the coding form (one letter per box). If the angler was not fishing in a tournament, leave Item 17b blank.

Item 18 PRIMARY GEAR Indicate the primary fishing gear used on the intercepted trip. In most areas, this will almost always be 'I' (rod and reel). If the angler states that a fishing gear other than those listed was primarily used, code '4' and specify the type of fishing gear used.

Item 19 NUMBER OF LINES-PRIMARY GEAR If the angler indicated at Item 18 that he/she fished primarily with a harpoon, you should not ask Item 19, but instead go to Item 20 (since someone fishing with a harpoon wouldn't have used fishing lines at all). If the respondent was not fishing with a harpoon, then ask Item 19 and indicate the total number of fishing lines used at one time for the primary gear during the intercepted trip.

Item 20 HOURS FISHED-PRIMARY GEAR Note that the wording for this question varies depending on the gear with which the respondent was fishing. In either case, indicate the number of hours spent actually fishing with the primary gear. Do not include the time spent travelling to the fishing area, for instance.

Item 21 LIVE BAIT-PRIMARY GEAR Indicate if live bait was used on the intercepted trip with the primary fishing gear.

Item 22 DEAD BAIT-PRIMARY GEAR Indicate if dead bait was used on the intercepted trip with the primary fishing gear.

Item 27 OTHER (SECONDARY) GEAR USED Ask the respondent if any gear, other than the primary gear, was used on the intercepted fishing trip. If he/she says 'yes', code '1' and continue with Item 28. If they say 'no', code '2', skip to Item 37, and leave Items 28 through 36 blank. If the angler fished with more than one type of gear on their trip, you will need to ask Items 28 through 36. These items are exactly the same as the previous series of questions about primary gear, but they ask about secondary gear.

Item 28 OTHER GEAR Indicate the secondary fishing gear used on the intercepted trip. If the angler states that a fishing gear other than those listed was used as the secondary gear, code '4' and specify the type of fishing gear used.

Item 29 NUMBER OF LINES-SECONDARY GEAR If the angler indicated at Item 28 that he/she fished with a harpoon, you should not ask Item 29, but instead go to Item 30 (since someone fishing with a harpoon wouldn't have used fishing lines at all). If the respondent was not fishing with a harpoon, then ask Item 29 and indicate the total number of fishing lines used at one time for the secondary gear during the intercepted trip.

Item 30 HOURS FISH ED-S ECONDARY GEAR Note that the wording for this question varies depending on it the respondent's secondary gear was a harpoon or not. In either case, indicate the number of hours spent actually fishing with the secondary gear. Do not include the time spent travelling to the fishing area, for instance.

Item 31 LIVE BAIT-SECONDARY GEAR Indicate if live bait was used on the intercepted trip with the secondary fishing gear.

Item 32 DEAD BAIT-SECONDARY GEAR Indicate if dead bait was used on the intercepted trip with the secondary fishing gear.

Item 33 ARTIFICIAL BAIT-SECONDARY GEAR Indicate if artificial bait was used on the intercepted trip with the secondary fishing gear.

Item 34 TROLLING-SECONDARY GEAR Indicate if trolling was used on the intercepted trip with the secondary fishing gear.

Item 35 CHUMMING/CHUNKING-SECONDARY GEAR Indicate if chumming or chunking methods were used on the intercepted trip with the secondary gear. Bailing or baiting dolphin is considered a method of chumming/chunking.

- Item 36 OTHER METHODS-SECONDARY GEAR** Indicate if fishing methods other than trolling, chumming, and chunking were used on the intercepted trip with the secondary gear. Be sure to specify the other methods on the coding form!
- Item 37 NUMBER OF ANGLERS** Indicate the total number of anglers who were actively involved in large pelagic fishing on the intercepted trip (with either type of gear). Do not include persons who did no fishing.
- Items 38a and 38b are to be asked only in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. In all other states, these questions should be skipped!
- Item 38a SPOTTER PLANE** In ME, NH, and MA, ask 'Did you use a spotter plane to help you locate large pelagics?'. If the respondent says 'yes', code '1' and go to Item 38b. Otherwise code '2' and go to Item 39.
- Item 38b SPOTTER PLANE** If the angler reported using a spotter plane to locate large pelagics, ask 'How many hours was the spotter plane searching for fish for your boat?'. Record to the nearest whole hour.
- Item 39 LOCATION** Indicate the latitude and longitude coordinates of the main fishing site that was used for the intercepted trip. If the angler states that he/she was fishing at one of the sites listed on the fishing area list, write the area name on the line provided and fill in the corresponding lat/longs (which should be provided on the area list). If the angler was not fishing at one of the listed areas, show the angler the map and have him/her indicate the area at *which he/she* was fishing.
- Each state will be using different maps, so the directions for obtaining lat/longs may vary slightly. In general, *though, latitude* increases from bottom to top, and longitude increases from right to left. Attempt to obtain lat/long measurements that are accurate within 5' (5 minutes). Looking at the sample map in the back of the manual, pointX would be coded '4020'/'7355' at Item 39. Point'Z' would be coded '4025'/'7345'. Point'Q'would be coded '4015'/'7350'.
- Since it will take a bit of time to determine and transcribe the lat/long measurements for the respondent's primary fishing location, it is advisable to initially mark the point on your map, and then determine and code the lat/long measurements after the interview.
- Item 40 MILES OFFSHORE** Indicate the maximum number of miles that the intercepted vessel strayed from land on the intercepted trip. Be sure to get the mileage to the nearest point of land, as opposed to the mileage to the site of intercept.
- Item 41 WATER DEPTH** Indicate the depth (in feet) at the intercepted vessel's fishing location. If the respondent can not provide an exact depth, try to obtain a depth range, and use the midpoint. If the response is given in fathoms, remember that:
6 FEET = 1 FATHOM
and adjust the response accordingly, or just write the number of fathoms to the side of the boxes on the coding form, and we will convert the measurement to feet.

Item 42 SURFACE WATER TEMPERATURE Indicate the surface water temperature (in degrees Fahrenheit) at the intercepted site. If the response is given in Celsius, write the degrees Celsius to the side of Question 42. We will convert the temperature to Fahrenheit in the off ice.

Item 43 NAME AND PHONE QuanTech, Inc. is contractually required to validate a certain percentage of all completed field interviews. To do so, we must have a name and phone number where the respondent can be reached for an extremely short interview (about 2 minutes). This number **will** not be used *for the telephone portion of the LPS, and the respondent does not necessarily* need to give his/her full name, or a home phone number. (A first name and a work phone number is fine.) After **the interview, transcribe this information to** the orange validation form. Be sure to include area code!

Item 44 CAUGHT LARGE PELAGICS-PRIMARY GEAR Indicate if any large pelagics were caught on the fishing trip using the primary gear. If large pelagics were caught using the primary gear, enter '1' for 'yes'. If no large pelagics were caught using the primary gear, enter '2' for 'no'. If the respondent claims that they don't know if large pelagics were caught with the primary gear, or if they refuse to answer, record the appropriate code and go to Item 46. In the estimation programs that NMFS uses, a 'don't know' or 'refused' response is analyzed much differently than a 'no' response, so be especially careful to code the correct response at Item 44. Do not write the total number of fish caught in this box, and do not write '0' in this box!

Items 44a

44ee LARGE PELAGIC COUNTS-PRIMARY GEAR If large pelagics were caught using the primary gear, indicate, by species:

- the number of fish kept (including any large pelagics used for bait);
- the number of fish released alive;
- the number of fish released dead.

If you are absolutely certain that the respondent is making a mistake in count or species identification, you should record the correct information on your form, as opposed to the incorrect information supplied by the respondent. In general, though, you should always take the respondent's word for it!

For the purposes of this survey, bluefin tuna size classifications should be determined by their length. If a respondent reports that he/she caught and kept 4 young school bluefin, for example, and at Item 45 you are able to measure the fish and find that one is 1156 millimeters long, you should code Items 44 and 45 to reflect that the angler caught and kept only 3 young school bluefin, along with 1 large school bluefin.

Fill out the corresponding coding boxes for each species that the angler caught. If the angler can not remember how many he/she kept or released of a certain species, code '88'. If the angler kept none of the fish he/she caught, or released none of them, be sure to fill in '00' in the appropriate boxes. Do not leave the boxes blank!

If you encounter a shark species not listed from Items 44p through 44x, write in the name of the species at Item 44y, along with the species counts.

If you encounter another type of large game fish species not listed from Items 44a through 44dd, write in the name of the species at Item 44ee, along with the species counts. If you are not certain if a fish is considered a large game fish, it's best to fill it in, so that we, along with NMFS can determine if it should be included in the LIPS database.

Item 45 FISH AVAILABLE TO LOOK AT If the angler did not catch any fish using his/her primary gear (that is, if Question 44 is 7, '8', or '9'), code Question 45 '8' and go to Question 46. If the angler did catch and keep any fish with his/her primary gear, ask 'Are any of the fish that you kept available for me to look at?' If the angler says 'yes', code Question 45 with a '1'. If the angler refuses to show his/her fish, or has no fish available to look at, code Question 45 with a '2'. Do not write the total number of fish inspected in this box, and do not write '0' in this box!

Even if **YOU** can not obtain any information on the species' length or sex, it is still important for you to list the fish at Item 45, if you personally see and identify it.

Fish that have been filleted are not considered 'available to look at'. If you encounter fish that are filleted, do not include them at Item 45.

If the respondent does have large game fish for you to look at, you should proceed with the collection of the following biological data:

Species Code Use the four digit species codes listed for Items 44 and 46; if the species code is not listed, record the actual species name.

Length If possible, measure the length of the fish; if you can not obtain the length of the fish (e.g., if the respondent will not allow you to measure the fish, or if the fish is not whole or gutted), code length '9999';

only fish that are whole and fish that are gutted only should be measured (prep=0 or 2);

be sure to measure in **millimeters**,

Sex For sharks and dolphin, record the sex of each fish (1 =male, 2=female, 8=don't know),

Prep Record the preparation of the species (0=whole, 2=gutted, 3=other).

Gear For Item 45, gear type should always be '1' (primary gear), or possibly '8' if the respondent can not remember if he/she used the primary or secondary gear to catch the fish.

Item 46 CAUGHT LARGE PELAGICS-SECONDARY GEAR ASK ITEMS 46 THROUGH 47 ONLY IF THE RESPONDENT USED TWO TYPES OF GEAR ON HIS/HER FISHING TRIP; OTHERWISE SKIP THESE ITEMS AND GO TO THE SOCIOECONOMIC QUESTIONNAIRE.

Indicate if any large pelagics were caught on the fishing trip using the secondary gear. If large pelagics were caught using the secondary gear, enter '1' for 'yes'. If no large pelagics were caught using the secondary gear, enter '2' for 'no'. If the respondent claims that they don't know if large pelagics were caught, or if they refuse to answer, record the appropriate code and go to the Socioeconomic Questionnaire. In the estimation programs that NMFS uses, a 'don't know' or 'refused' response is analyzed much differently than a 'no' response, so be especially careful to code the correct response at Item 46. Do not write the total number of fish caught in this box, and do not write '0' in this box!

Items 46a

46ee LARGE PELAGIC COUNTS-SECONDARY GEAR If large pelagics were caught using the secondary gear, indicate, by species:

- the number of fish kept (including any large pelagics used for bait);
- the number of fish released alive;
- the number offish released dead.

All of the directions for Items 44a-44ee also hold true for Items 46a-46ee.

Item 47 FISH AVAILABLE TO LOOK AT If the angler did not catch any fish using his/her secondary gear (that is, if Question 46 is 7, '8', or '9'), code Question 47 '8' and go to the Socioeconomic Questionnaire. If the angler did catch and keep any fish with his/her secondary gear, ask 'Are any of the fish that you kept available for me to look at?' If the angler says 'yes', code Question 47 with a '1'. If the angler refuses to show his/her fish, or has no fish available to look at, code Question 47 with a '2'. Do not write the total number of fish inspected in this box, and do not write '0' in this box!

All of **the directions listed at Item 45 also hold true for Item 47, with the exception of gear type, which should always be coded '2'** at Item 47 (or possibly '8' for 'don't know').

Creel Census Information

SUB-SAMPLING If more than fifteen fish of a particular species or size classification (and gear type) are available to look at, then the interviewer should sub-sample the catch. Only fifteen fish of any one species/size class should be recorded at Item 45 or 47. If you inspect more fish than will fit on one form, fill in Items 1 through 4 at the top of another form and use that form to fill in the remaining fish. To randomly sub-sample the fish, you should blindly determine which fish you inspect; do not purposely try to pick the fish that look 'average'.

For the LPS, we are most interested in obtaining information on bluefin tuna. If you will not have time to inspect all of the fish caught, at least try to inspect and measure any bluefin that are available.

SPECIES CODE Use your Guide to the Large Pelagic Species of the Atlantic to help in your species identifications. Peterson's Field Guide to Atlantic Coast Fishes of North America is also a good source of information.

Remember that if you encounter a bluefin tuna, its size classification should be determined by its length. If an angler tells you that he/she caught a large school blue in at Item 44, for instance, and you find that it actually measures 1465 millimeters, you should record it as a small medium bluefin at Item 45. You should also make sure that you correct Item 44, as well, so that the bluefin that you actually measured is appropriately listed in the small medium classification.

LENGTH Fish lengths should be recorded to the nearest millimeter (do not use inches or centimeters)! Most of the measuring tapes that will be used for the LPS will be marked in centimeters. To determine millimeters, multiply the centimeter reading by 10 and add the number of smaller markings past the centimeter marking. For example, a fish that measures to the small line past '23' would be '231' millimeters. Since four coding boxes are provided for the length, the length should be coded as '0231'. Interviewers should be careful not to introduce digit bias into their measurements-don't round off!

If a fish is whole, or if it is only gutted, you should try to obtain a length measurement; do not obtain measurements for fish that have been headed or tailed.

PREP If the fish is whole, code as 'V'. If it is gutted, code as '2', and if it is prepared in any other manner (e.g., headed or tailed), code as '3'. Do not include any fish that are filleted at Questions 45 or 47.

SEE YOUR GUIDE TO THE LARGE PELAGIC SPECIES OF THE ATLANTIC COAST FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT IDENTIFYING, MEASURING, AND SEXING FISH.